

10/568613

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**THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION  
OF ANNEXES TO THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT (ARTICLE 34):**

Amended Sheets (Pages 13 & 14)

We claim:

1. A method of charging a vertical tube (1) having an internal diameter of 50 mm or less with catalyst particles (2), which comprises
  - 5 - introducing a filling aid (3) into the vertical tube (1), where the filling aid comprises a flexible elongated body and the ratio of the cross section of the flexible elongated body to the cross section of the tube (1) is from 0.003 to 0.08 and the filling aid has no elements which extend radially outward from the flexible body and whose projection onto a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the filling aid has a larger area than the cross section of the flexible body,
  - 10 - introducing the catalyst particles (2) into the tube (1), and
  - withdrawing the filling aid (3) during introduction of the catalyst particles (2) so that the lower end of the filling aid is always above the fill height of the catalyst particles (2) in the tube (1).
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the flexible elongated body has an essentially circular cross section.
- 20 3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the ratio of the diameter of the flexible elongated body to the diameter of the tube (1) is from 0.005 to 0.07.
4. The method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the flexible elongated body consists of a textile string or a textile tape.
- 25 5. The method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the filling aid (3) has a rigid terminating element (4) whose density is greater than that of the flexible body.
- 30 6. The method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the filling aid (3) has spacers (5) which are arranged at a distance from one another and extend perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the filling aid (3).
7. The method according to any of the preceding claims, which comprises
  - 35 successively:
    - introducing the filling aid (3) into the tube (1) in such a way that the lower end of the filling aid (3) is located at a first height,
    - introducing catalyst particles (2) into the tube (1) to below the first height,

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- if appropriate, partly withdrawing the filling aid (3) from the tube (1) so that the lower end of the filling aid (3) is located at a second or further height and introducing catalyst particles (2) into the tube (1) to below the second or further height,
- withdrawing the filling aid (3) completely from the tube (1) and filling the tube (1) with catalyst particles up to the final fill height.

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8. The method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the catalyst particles comprise shaped bodies composed of a catalytically active composition.

9. The method according to any of claims 1 to 7, wherein the catalyst particles comprise a catalytic composition applied in the form of a shell to an inert support.